

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Oranienburg Airfield

DATE PREPARED 6 October 1952

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) one - sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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1. Between 12 and 22 August, there were about 300 laborers working on construction projects at Oranienburg airfield. The number of skilled laborers was not increased. Most of the workmen who had newly arrived lived in and around Oranienburg. Work was done from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 2. An underground cable was being laid in a ditch, about 80 cm deep, from the transformer house at Veltener bridge in a northwestern direction to the taxiway which lead from Wilhelminenhof to the southeastern end of the short runway. The cable was further extended to the previously reported wooden tower at the long runway as an overhead line. The erection of the poles was completed by 22 August.
 3. The previously reported high tension power line starting at the northwestern end of the long runway was 75 percent completed. The line consisted of five wires, which were not insulated, connected to insulators. The poles were erected at intervals of 50 meters just east of the widened long runway. A second high tension power line led from the northern end of the long runway in a semicircle to the southern end. The two wires of this line were not insulated. Wooden poles were used as it was an overhead line.
 4. Between 12 and 22 August, the spur track near Annahof was extended to the south as far as the road between Wilhelminenhof and Antonienhof. Construction materials were shipped by rail to the storage site where the concrete was to be prepared.
 5. About 500 meters northwest of Wilhelminenhof, a sodded area of 30 x 400 meters was plowed. This area was to become the storage site for gravel and crushed stones. Cement was to be stored in two wooden sheds erected there, and the concrete was to be mixed at this place. The construction superintendant stated that priority was given to the completion of this site, because shipments of materials were expected in the near future.

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6. Construction activities at Wilhelminenhof were urged. About 30 handicraftsmen were employed. On 22 August, several desks and other office furniture arrived and was installed in three completed rooms.
7. A narrow-gauge railroad track was being laid on the long runway, starting at the northern end of the old runway to a place in line with Antonienhof. A branch line led to the mixing site and the cement sheds. Three Diesel locomotives and a motor driven roller arrived between 12 and 22 August.
8. Between 12 and 22 August, the area north and south of the runway extension was plowed by the Machine Tractor Station. The sod was piled up and was to be shipped away. Leveling and surveying teams were working at the airfield.
9. Every day, horse-drawn cars loaded with boards and logs arrived at the field. The boards and logs were piled up near the cement sheds.
10. On 22 August, it was observed that a water pipe was under construction from the northern end of the old runway just east along the runway to Wilhelminenhof. The pipe line was laid in a ditch about 30 cm deep.
11. Between 20 and 26 August, work was done at the extensions at both ends of the runway. Excavations were made, and the sodded surface was removed up to 50 meters right and left of the runway. The large temporary building in the middle of the field was used as a storage shed for cement. On 20 and 21 August, civilian vehicles hauled aircraft scrap from the field to a salvage dump opposite the Kayser Steelwork where it was loaded on railroad cars. Trucks observed at the field [redacted] loaded with pipes, [redacted] loaded with cement and [redacted] loaded with bread and other rations. The driver [redacted] wore black bordered blue epaulets.
12. Between 20 and 30 August, intensive work was done at the extension of the runway. The northern extension, about 300 meters, had already been planed, while leveling work was still being done at the southern extension. The railroad connection was extended to a point near Birkenallee. A narrow-gauge railroad line led from the runway to the storage building in the middle of the airfield, and another narrow-gauge railroad track led from this storage building to the northern end of the long runway. A second large shed was under construction beside the storage building. Two concrete mixing machines were observed there. A water pipe line was laid, about 1 m under ground, parallel to the northern side of the entire runway but about 2 or 3 meters away from it. There was a pump at the middle of the runway in line with the storage shed for cement, and borings were made at the runway in line with the second shed. The water line had a connection to Wilhelminenhof. The drain shafts at the side of the long runway which had been filled when the construction work started were cleared again. Defective and uneven parts of the runway were marked with paint before being repaired. It was not observed that work was also done at night. *

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13. On 21 August, it was observed that large quantities of construction materials were stored near the railroad connection at Oranienburg airfield. About 40 to 50 German workers were laying narrow-gauge railroad tracks along the northsouth runway. Two construction sheds were erected at the field, and two high power lines were observed.
14. The former Hans Schemm School was renovated. *
15. A standard-gauge railroad track was laid from the railroad connection of the airfield to a point east of the large hangar at the northern border of the field and further in a southwestern direction. Narrow-gauge railroad cars and an engine were unloaded at the railroad connection.

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16.

17. between 28 and 30 August, the plowed area of the landing field at the southern extension of the runway was graded. Earth was removed and replaced by sand and gravel. The extension of the runway was estimated at 400 to 500 meters. A second new shed was erected at the construction site. Rail shipments of cement and crushed stones arrived on the extension of the railroad line at the construction site where they were stored in a shed. Power lines, one of which was high tension, were strung on poles. After the completion of this line, work was to be continued in day and night shifts. *

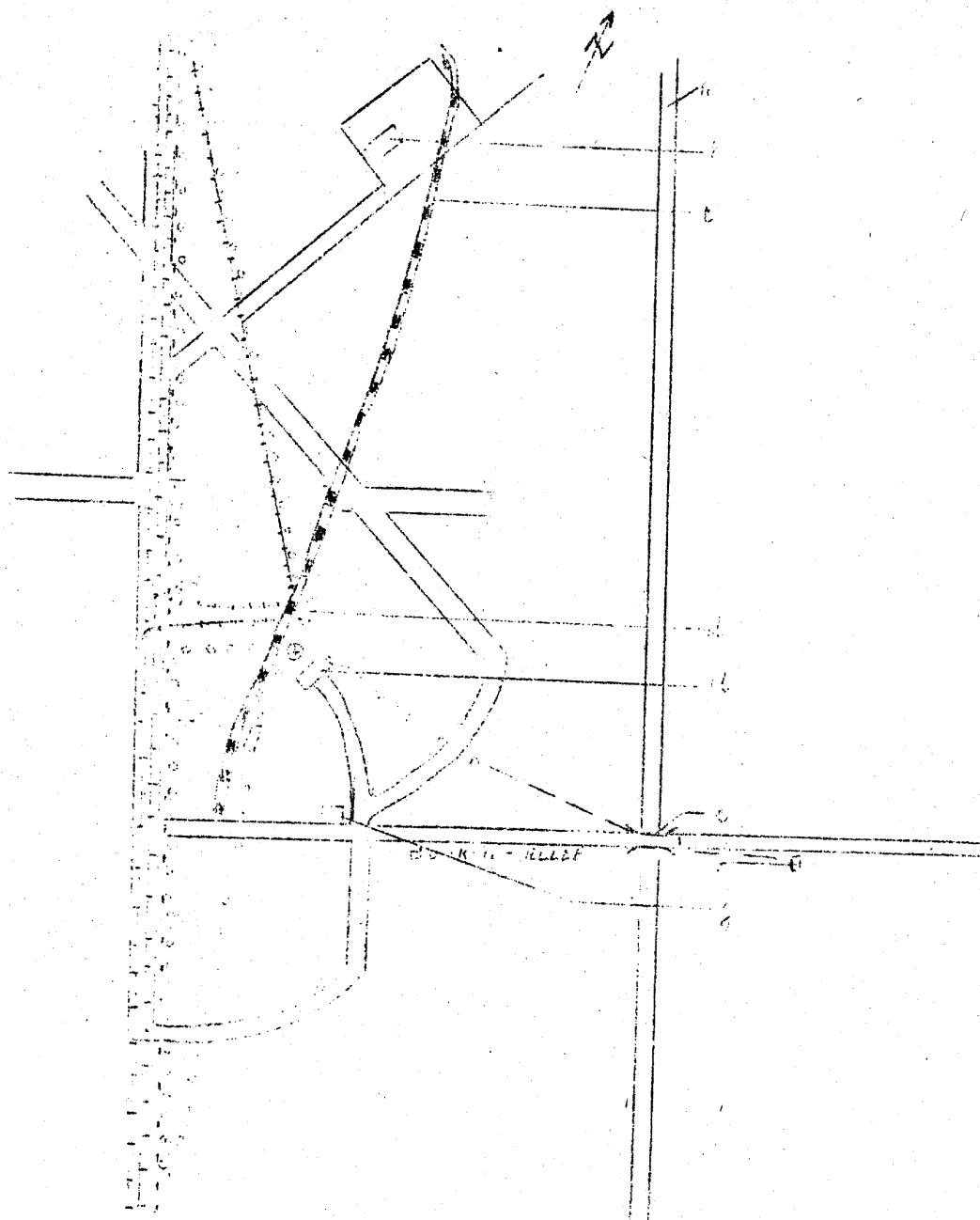
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- * Comment. See Annex for layout sketch of the construction activities. The length of the extensions at the northern and southern end of the runway has not been determined.
- . The Hans Schemm School is located in Weisse Stadt settlement.

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Annex t

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Oranienburg AirfieldLegend.

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a Oranienburg canal | --- Narrow-gauge railroad line |
| b Hangar | --- Spur track |
| c Extension of spur track | o o o light masts |
| d Two storage sheds | --- water pipe line |
| e Velten bridge | --- Ground cable |
| f Transformer | o Pump |
| g Wilhelminenhof | o Wooden tower |

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